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# STATISTICAL BULLETIN

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

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## Population Problems in Japan

Now that war is upon us, we can profit from more knowledge regarding our adversaries. What, for example, are some of the principal characteristics of the population of Japan?

On a relatively barren, mountainous group of islands, not quite equal to California in area, Japan sustains the life of more than 73,000,000 persons. The population density is 490 per square mile, more than 10 times that of the United States. This in itself does not necessarily involve any great hardship; other nations which make no great complaint of overpopulation live under conditions of much greater density—as, for instance, England, with 700 inhabitants per square mile, or Belgium, with 706. These are highly industrialized nations which largely import their foodstuffs while exporting manufactured goods.

The soil of Japan does not produce enough food to maintain the life and health of its people on a high standard. Actually, more than 10 percent of the rice, consumed in Japan is imported. Industrial organization has made remarkable strides in past decades, but it is far from sufficient to raise the standard of living to the levels we take for granted for ourselves. Encouragement by the government to relieve the population pressure by emigration to Japanese colonies has met with little success. Further development of Japan's industries would seem to be the first and natural remedy for her population problem, though she is seriously handicapped by lack of raw materials, in particular coal, oil, and iron.

To appreciate present conditions in Japan, it is necessary to make a survey of the recent past. In one respect, Japan has differed fundamentally from our Western civilized communities. We, in the United States, have long been accustomed to a gradual diminution in the rate of increase of our population. At the beginning of the 19th century this rate was about 30 per 1,000 per annum, and this has declined in an essentially regular and orderly manner to about seven per 1,000 per annum today. We see nothing disturbing in this gradual moderation in our rate of increase. Indeed, quite on the contrary, it would have been embarrassing had the original rate continued to the present. But,

until 1935, the Japanese authorities had been accustomed to an actual *rise* in the rate of increase of their population. In the course of the five-year period 1930 to 1935, the growth of the population was 7.5 percent—that is, at a rate of 1.5 percent per annum; then, in the next period, 1935 to 1940, this rate was *reduced* to 5.6 percent, a rate of 1.1 percent per annum.

This situation, together with an abrupt reversal in the trend of the birth rate from its upward course to a rapid downward course from about 1920 on, seems to have caused almost an alarm, and has inspired the formulation of a plan approved by the Japanese Cabinet in January of 1941. This plan aims at giving Japan a population of 100,000,000 by 1960, and frankly purposes to outrival other nations in rate of natural increase. It is modeled much on the lines of the German and Italian measures established for similar purposes, and proposes various forms of subsidies to large families, with some degree of penalization of small families and unmarried persons. To us this solicitude must seem somewhat exaggerated when we reflect, for example, that even today Japan with its 73,000,000 inhabitants annually has nearly 2 million births, not far below our own figure of about 2¼ millions in our population of 132,000,000.

In its mortality Japan lags materially behind us. The death rate in Japan, according to recent figures, is 17.4 per 1,000, as against a rate of approximately 10 or 11 in our own experience. The fact is that recent conditions in Japan correspond to conditions here about 40 years ago. So in 1937, for example, the birth rate in Japan was 30.6, with which we may compare our birth rate of 29.5 in 1900. The death rate in Japan about the year 1937 not only resembles ours for 1900 in the general average, but the resemblance extends in considerable measure to mortality from individual causes. Whereas our death rate from tuberculosis today is fortunately reduced to 45 per 100,000, that of Japan in 1937 was 204, a figure closely resembling ours for 1900, namely 196. Again, the death rate from diarrhea and enteritis, which in the United States today has sunk to the relatively insignificant figure of 10 per 100,000, in Japan is still at 169, a figure of the same order of magnitude as ours in 1900. The list might be extended, and the comparison is the more justified as the age distribution in Japan about 1937 rather closely resembled ours in 1900, a fact which of course is related to the similarity in the general birth rate and death rate out of which the age distribution arises.

The age distribution is itself a matter of outstanding interest today on account of its relation to the availability of men of military age. The proportion of men in the age group of 20 to 44 in Japan, according to the latest data available which relate to the census of 1935, is 34 percent, corresponding to a total of 11 millions. In our own population, the contingent of men of these

ages constitutes 38.5 percent, or a total of 25 millions.

The figures of mortality cited above relate to peacetime conditions. In time of war, of course, the picture is very seriously upset not only by military losses and civilian losses directly due to military operations, but also by the very serious upset of sanitary conditions that are an almost inevitable consequence. That we are not dealing merely with abstract principles in this matter is well illustrated by recent reports of the spread of typhus in various parts of the countries invaded by war. An even greater menace is the danger of the spread of cholera. It has been pointed out by the United States Public Health Service that cases of cholera have been reported in Japan, and that any bombing of Japan's crowded and highly inflammable cities might easily give rise to an outburst of a widespread epidemic. Normal supervision of the supply of foodstuffs and drinking water would be seriously disrupted by bombing of the Japanese towns, built as they are of flimsy material. The number of people rendered homeless would be on an altogether greater scale than has been the case in European cities with more substantial buildings. Somewhat similar remarks apply to the danger of typhoid epidemics; and deficiency diseases, under conditions that amount to virtual siege, would also tend to mount.

Such are some of the outstanding features of the population statistics of Japan. On such basis as this Japan has launched out on a program of expansion. There is an obvious incongruity in a national policy that demands more room for excess population at the same time that it urges its people to reproduce more abundantly. There certainly cannot be much sympathy for a program that offers bonuses and all kinds of bribes to the average family to breed more freely, while on the other hand it claims that excess population is the justification for its territorial robberies.

## The Balance of Births and Deaths in 1941

TWELVE months ago, in surveying the birth record in the United States for 1940, we noted an increase in the birth rate over that of the previous year. Present indications assure a further and decided increase in 1941. Earlier in the year the United States Bureau of the Census, on the basis of reports covering the first four months of 1941, predicted that the final birth rate for the year might reach 18.5 per thousand population as against the 17.9 recorded in 1940. It now appears that even this optimistic outlook will probably be excelled by the facts. According to reports received from 36 States and covering for the most part the first nine months of 1941, it is very likely that the final birth rate for the entire country will reach 18.8 per

thousand population. If this figure is realized, it will be the highest birth rate recorded since 1930.

Apparently the most pronounced increases will be registered on the Pacific Coast, in Southern New England, in the Middle Atlantic States, and in those located on the South Atlantic Seaboard. Among individual States, especially large increases are shown by Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, the District of Columbia, and California. All these are known to be States that have attracted thousands of workers, largely young adults in the reproductive ages, seeking employment in war industries, a fact that may well have contributed to the large increases in the birth rate. Quite aside from that, the general revival of industrial activity accompanying the expansion of our defense efforts was in itself calculated to increase the birth rate. An important factor working in the same direction was the very marked increase in the marriage rate throughout the United States during the second half of 1940. This subject is more fully considered in the following article.

Coincident with the rise in the birth rate, there will likely be a slight decrease in the death rate of the country for 1941. This is indicated by all available data, despite the greatly stepped-up industrialization which might lead us to expect an increased death rate. The concentration of thousands of workers, many of whom were relatively inexperienced in the handling of machinery, in industries for national defense, would tend to increase the number of fatal accidents and to cause a rise in the mortality from industrial diseases. At present, however, it does not seem that the number of such deaths from industrial accidents and diseases will be sufficient to raise the general death rate above that recorded in 1940. The country has been singularly free from serious epidemics during the past year and, in addition, has been blessed with unusually favorable weather throughout the autumnal months.

Assuming that the death rate for 1941 is about 10.7 per thousand, this would give a rate of natural increase of 8.1 per thousand, as against 7 per thousand, the average experienced over the last 10-year period, 1930-1940. Our readers are familiar with the fact that the crude rate of natural increase is an incomplete indication of the true reproductivity of the population. In order to get a more truly representative figure, it is necessary to allow for the effect of our abnormal age distribution. When this allowance is made, it is found that the so-called true rate of natural increase, according to the fertility and mortality of 1941, is a little under three per thousand per annum, corresponding to an increase of about 7 percent per generation. With the prospect of a heavy toll exacted by war, and its after effects, this small margin is far from reassuring, when we remember that our birth rate in 1941 is the highest we have experienced in a decade.

# Marriages Increase in 1941

ACCORDING to a survey made of 30 large American cities, including about one quarter of our population, marriage licenses issued up to and including November of this year have exceeded those of the corresponding period of 1940 by 8.8 percent.

On the whole, the greatest gains among the cities covered by this survey were made by those containing large shipbuilding, metal-working, and aviation establishments. Thus Baltimore, with its busy shipyards, large aviation industry, and near-by steel mills, is high up in the list of our cities, with a gain of almost 40 percent in marriage licenses issued this year over the number issued last year. Practically the same increase was experienced in Dayton, Ohio, where the manufacture of machine tools and other equipment needed for national defense is conducted on a large scale. Indianapolis, in the heart of the automobile parts industry, had a rise of more than 30 percent in licenses issued this year over the previous year. An increase of 25 percent is noted for Hartford, a metal-working center and now the home of one of our largest aviation manufacturing plants. Worcester, also a large metal-working community, experienced a gain of almost 20 percent. The spurt given to the textile and defense industries in and around Providence is undoubtedly reflected in the 23 percent rise in marriage licenses issued there. In Washington, D. C., the hub from which our industry is being organized for national defense, the marriage licenses issued up to and including November of this year were about one third more than in the corresponding period of last year. Omaha had a gain of 21 percent. Among the cities in this survey with increases ranging from 10 to 20 percent are Albany, Rochester (N. Y.), Milwaukee, Youngstown, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Atlanta, New Orleans, Akron, and Fort Worth. Jersey City and Grand Rapids (Mich.) showed less than 10 percent increase. Only Richmond (Va.) and Salt Lake City showed decreases.

The gains in the number of marriages in our six largest cities were not quite as striking as in those just cited. Thus, in New York City, the first 11 months of 1941 were only 2½ percent ahead of the year before. Chicago's gain amounted to a little less than 6 percent, while Philadelphia moved ahead by 3½ percent. Detroit went forward by 5½ percent, and Los Angeles by almost 10 percent. Marriages in Cleveland, our sixth largest city, advanced in number by only 2¼ percent. Pittsburgh showed an increase of less than 3 percent, and the gain in San Francisco amounted to 5¼ percent.

Undoubtedly, an influx of skilled and unskilled workers has contributed to the large increases observed in many of the cities in this survey.

Jobs waiting to be filled not only attract workers, but also provide opportunity for marriage and home-building. The comparatively smaller gains made by our largest cities is not difficult to understand. With the exception of Detroit, the heavy defense industries are not as important a part of the total economy in a metropolis as in the smaller cities. Migrants into these cities would be relatively small proportions of the total populations.

On the whole, the gains in marriage licenses issued in 1941, over 1940, were concentrated in the first seven months of the year. During this period the increase in the 30 cities under survey amounted to 22 percent. August, September, and October of this year could not meet the record of the year before, when the anticipation of service in our armed forces provided a sudden spurt to marriages. For these three months the licenses issued in our 30 cities were 11½ percent fewer than last year. This situation was only temporary; November 1941 was 13 percent ahead of the same month of 1940. The outlook is that December of this year will also be ahead of last, for in addition to the more favorable economic situation the recent extension of the ages of selection for military service is giving another spurt to marriages.

In the midst of the unsettled conditions of our present time, it is pleasing to find the bright spot provided by the rise in marriages. It is altogether a favorable sign that the young people of our country are taking seriously this opportunity to establish themselves in family life.

## American Longevity Approaches Three Score and Ten

IN OUR last prewar year, 1940, the people of our country had an average length of life of 63.77 years, according to a life table prepared in the Statistical Bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. A person 19 years of age today has, on an average, as many years of life before him as the newborn baby had according to conditions in 1900. As to sex differentials, for white females, in 1940, the average length of life was remarkably high, namely 67.31 years; for white males the figure was 62.94 years, or about 4⅓ years less. Colored persons had an average length of life about 10 years less than that for white persons; for the males it was 53.04 years, while for females it was 56.01 years. These figures for our colored people compare favorably with those for many European nations. For example, in Italy males had an average length of life of 53.76 years in 1930-1932, and females an average of 56.00 years. Details regarding average length of life (expectation of life at birth) in the United States, according to race and sex, for several periods since 1900 will be found in Table I on page 8.

The gain in average length of life since the turn of the century was almost 21 years for the colored and about 15½ years for white persons. For both races the gain in longevity was greater for females than for males; in the case of white persons the improvement amounted to 16.23 years and 14.71 years for females and males respectively.

The improvement in longevity since 1900 can be measured in still another way. Thus, according to mortality conditions prevailing at that time, only 80 percent of the children born would have survived to age 10 years, while under present conditions 94 percent will survive to that age. The situation at the beginning of the century was such that one quarter of the babies born died before reaching age 25; today 55 years will elapse before one quarter of the births will be accounted for by death. According to present standards of health, almost one half of our babies will reach the mark of three score and ten, whereas for babies of 1900 the outlook at that time was that somewhat less than one third would attain that age.

Details regarding expectation of life and mortality at quinquennial ages, according to color and sex, for the general population in 1940 are given in Table II on page 8. As things are at the present time, white children of about 15 years of age have as many years of life before them as newborn colored babies. How much poorer health conditions are among the colored than among white persons can be gauged from the mortality rates in the right-hand side of Table II. Here it is seen that, at the ages from 15 to 50 years, colored males experience mortality rates more than twice those of white males. In the case of females, the mortality rates for the colored are more than three times those for the white at ages from 15 to 45. Nevertheless, as we have seen, the colored people of the United States have made great strides in disease control and in life extension. Further progress will surely follow.

Our past record has been one of continual increase in average length of life. In the present national crisis only constant vigilance can insure equal or better performance in the years to come. Inadequate housing facilities around rapidly expanding defense industries, a rising accident fatality on the job and elsewhere, a reduction in medical attention to civilians because of a shortage of physicians, the possibility of a curtailment in the development of needed public health facilities because of priority demands for national defense—these are some of the dangers arising out of the new situation that might adversely affect the health of our Nation, unless they are taken into account in the organization of the fight against our enemies. The same efforts that have brought the average length of life of the American people to its present high level are needed to maintain the sound body and mind essential to an early victory.

## TABLE I

*Expectation of Life at Birth in the United States, According to Color and Sex, for Selected Periods from 1900 to 1940*

| Year or Period | White | | Colored** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 1940* | 62.94 | 67.31 | 53.04 | 56.01 |
| 1930–1939* | 60.62 | 64.52 | 50.06 | 52.62 |
| 1929–1931* | 59.12 | 62.67 | 47.55 | 49.51 |
| 1920–1929† | 57.85 | 60.62 | 46.90 | 47.95 |
| 1919–1921† | 56.34 | 58.53 | 47.14 | 46.92 |
| 1909–1911‡ | 50.23 | 53.62 | 34.05 | 37.67 |
| 1901–1910‡ | 49.32 | 52.54 | 32.57 | 35.65 |
| 1900–1902‡ | 48.23 | 51.08 | 32.54 | 35.04 |

Note—The life table for 1940 was prepared in the Statistical Bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and is based upon preliminary census data of population which are not likely to be changed much in the final reports.

*Continental United States. †Registration States of 1920. ‡Original Death Registration States.

**Data for periods from 1900 to 1931 relate to Negroes only.

## TABLE II

*Expectation of Life and Mortality Rate per 1,000, at Specified Ages, by Color and Sex, General Population in the United States, 1940**

| Age | Expectation of Life | | | | | Mortality Rate per 1,000 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total Persons | White | | Colored | | Total Persons | White | | Colored | |
| | | Males | Females | Males | Females | | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 0 | 63.77 | 62.94 | 67.31 | 53.04 | 56.01 | 43.50 | 45.45 | 35.31 | 70.43 | 54.87 |
| 1 | 65.65 | 64.91 | 68.76 | 56.02 | 58.23 | 4.93 | 4.69 | 4.07 | 9.43 | 7.55 |
| 2 | 64.97 | 64.22 | 68.04 | 55.55 | 57.67 | 2.55 | 2.51 | 2.14 | 4.43 | 3.58 |
| 3 | 64.14 | 63.38 | 67.18 | 54.79 | 56.88 | 1.73 | 1.75 | 1.51 | 2.53 | 2.30 |
| 4 | 63.25 | 62.49 | 66.28 | 53.93 | 56.01 | 1.43 | 1.47 | 1.20 | 2.08 | 2.05 |
| 5 | 62.34 | 61.58 | 65.36 | 53.04 | 55.12 | 1.23 | 1.30 | 1.02 | 1.79 | 1.71 |
| 10 | 57.64 | 56.91 | 60.63 | 48.41 | 50.44 | .84 | .94 | .67 | 1.24 | .99 |
| 15 | 52.91 | 52.20 | 55.84 | 43.80 | 45.83 | 1.36 | 1.37 | .96 | 2.74 | 3.04 |
| 20 | 48.34 | 47.61 | 51.15 | 39.58 | 41.72 | 2.14 | 2.06 | 1.44 | 5.37 | 5.32 |
| 25 | 43.88 | 43.12 | 46.54 | 35.76 | 37.87 | 2.62 | 2.43 | 1.81 | 7.28 | 6.38 |
| 30 | 39.46 | 38.64 | 41.98 | 32.09 | 34.10 | 3.07 | 2.79 | 2.20 | 8.64 | 7.52 |
| 35 | 35.09 | 34.20 | 37.46 | 28.49 | 30.40 | 3.87 | 3.58 | 2.79 | 10.28 | 8.96 |
| 40 | 30.81 | 29.85 | 33.01 | 25.01 | 26.84 | 5.26 | 5.08 | 3.73 | 13.33 | 12.19 |
| 45 | 26.68 | 25.69 | 28.67 | 21.78 | 23.58 | 7.47 | 7.67 | 5.28 | 18.02 | 16.00 |
| 50 | 22.75 | 21.77 | 24.48 | 18.91 | 20.60 | 10.92 | 11.66 | 7.67 | 25.71 | 22.43 |
| 55 | 19.09 | 18.15 | 20.50 | 16.50 | 18.10 | 15.89 | 17.64 | 11.38 | 33.15 | 30.04 |
| 60 | 15.69 | 14.86 | 16.75 | 14.22 | 15.83 | 22.48 | 25.67 | 17.12 | 36.85 | 33.33 |
| 65 | 12.56 | 11.88 | 13.30 | 11.88 | 13.46 | 33.28 | 37.61 | 27.20 | 47.41 | 40.38 |
| 70 | 9.80 | 9.26 | 10.27 | 9.83 | 11.30 | 50.47 | 56.11 | 43.89 | 61.42 | 52.37 |
| 75 | 7.42 | 7.02 | 7.68 | 7.91 | 9.38 | 76.15 | 84.60 | 68.59 | 78.02 | 67.86 |
| 80 | 5.44 | 5.20 | 5.50 | 6.08 | 7.67 | 117.40 | 127.73 | 110.66 | 103.73 | 84.34 |

*Computed in the Statistical Bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company on the basis of preliminary census data of population which are not likely to be changed much in the final reports.

# America's Loss Through Fatal Accidents in 1941

WAR overshadows all else in the thoughts of the American people, and the dangers faced by our men at the front, resulting in the loss of 3,000 of them in the first combat, make the hazards of civilian life seem trivial. Nevertheless, the need for safe practices in our daily activities must not be forgotten. As a matter of fact, our accident-prevention efforts must be intensified, for the toll is mounting. What new hazards will develop and how much they will add to our accident problem is unknown at this time. We have not yet learned if constant blackouts will be necessary in many districts of the country; and if they are, how they will affect the frequency of accidents. But we do know that many serious street accidents have occurred in England during blackout hours, and that some such accidents have already been suffered here.

A sharp reminder of the magnitude of the accident problem in this country is the fatal accident record for 1941. Deaths in all kinds of accidents, it is estimated, will total close to 100,000, an increase of about 3,000 deaths, or a little more than 3 percent above the 96,885 deaths in 1940, and the highest total for any year since 1937. Unquestionably, the increased activity in connection with preparedness contributed heavily to this rise.

A drastic increase in motor-vehicle accident fatalities figures prominently in the rise in the total number of accidental deaths last year. Motor-vehicle accident deaths will be in the neighborhood of 39,500, a gain of about 5,000 deaths, or more than 14 percent as compared with 1940. This will make 1941 one of the worst years in our history. It is even possible that the toll will equal the previous peak year, 1937.

It is interesting to compare the importance of motor-vehicle accidents in the accident problem as a whole today, with that of the year of our entry into the first World War. In 1917 there were about 90,000 deaths from accidents of all kinds, and of these, over 10,000—or one in about every nine — were due to motor vehicles. At that time, however, there were only about 5,000,000 motor vehicles registered in the United States. Today, accidents involving our more than 32,000,000 registered motor vehicles account for four out of every ten accidental deaths. For more than a decade now, motor-vehicle fatalities have been the leading class of fatal mishap.

As was to be expected, the greatly increased industrial activity throughout the entire year of 1941 was accompanied by a sharp rise in occupational accidents. Data now available indicate that there may be some 1,500 more fatal accidents to persons at work in 1941 than in 1940. Most of the increase, of course, can be attributed to the greater total number of hours of employment. It may be reasonably assumed that other factors contrib-

uted, such as the employment of older men and of many young men at new jobs in defense activities, new processes, overcrowded conditions in some factories, speeding up among workers, overfatigue from long hours, placing old machines back into operation, and less careful inspection of machines used in multiple shifts.

Not all major classes of accidents, however, will show increases in 1941. From the preliminary data now on hand it appears that in the neighborhood of 1,000 fewer persons sustained fatal injuries in home accidents. A similar decline occurred in public, other than motor-vehicle accident deaths.

Accident catastrophes—those in which five or more persons are killed—were more frequent during 1941 than in 1940. More motor-vehicle accidents, Service air crashes, and water transportation accidents, falling into this grouping, account for this situation. The total number of lives lost in these tragedies up to the closing weeks of the year, however, was less than in 1940. No single catastrophe up to this time claimed any very considerable number of lives in 1941. As a matter of fact, 1941 is the only year in the past decade in which no accident catastrophe took 100 or more lives. Greatest losses of life in individual accidents in 1941 resulted from the ship and pier fire in Brooklyn, N. Y., in August (37 lives), and from the explosion of a boat filled with picnickers in Maine in June (36 lives). As in other years, total deaths from accident catastrophes played a relatively small part in the year's accident toll, about one in each 100 accidental deaths.

# Statistical Information, Please

***What are the chances that a wife will outlive her husband?***

Where the husband and wife are of the same age, the chances that the wife will outlive her husband are 55 in 100. Where the husband is five years older than the wife, the chances are about 64 in 100, and in case the husband is ten years older, these chances increase to 73 in 100. In the rarer case where the husband is five years younger than the wife, the chances that the wife will become a widow are about 45 in 100.

***Whom do the widowed and divorced marry?***

On the whole, persons previously widowed or divorced tend to marry persons of like marital status. According to recent data for New York State, almost one half of the widows and widowers who remarried chose as their mate someone who had also been previously widowed. In the case of the divorced, about three fifths entered their remarriage with a single person, and almost one quarter took as their second mate another who had been divorced. Among those widowed or divorced, the men had a greater tendency to marry spinsters than the women had to marry bachelors.

The following table shows the mortality among Industrial policyholders for November 1941, October 1941, and November 1940, together with the death rates for the first 11 months of each year.

*METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY*

*Death Rates* per 100,000 Policyholders from Selected Causes. Industrial Department. Weekly Premium-Paying Business*

| Causes of Death | Annual Rate per 100,000 Policyholders* | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | November 1941 | October 1941 | November 1940 | Year to Date: End of November | |
| | | | | 1941 | 1940 |
| All Causes—Total | 666.9 | 677.0 | 703.1 | 744.8 | 757.9 |
| Typhoid fever | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Measles | .2 | .3 | .1 | .9 | .3 |
| Scarlet fever | .4 | .... | .4 | .4 | .6 |
| Whooping cough | .9 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
| Diphtheria | .8 | .7 | 1.0 | .7 | .8 |
| Influenza | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 7.9 | 7.5 |
| Pneumonia (all forms) | 23.4 | 19.2 | 28.0 | 31.1 | 35.5 |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | 36.0 | 37.0 | 39.9 | 42.6 | 44.1 |
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system | 32.5 | 32.5 | 36.4 | 38.7 | 39.7 |
| Syphilis | 9.0 | 10.1 | 11.1 | 11.1 | 11.4 |
| Cancer (all forms) | 94.9 | 94.4 | 95.0 | 102.5 | 101.1 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 24.1 | 22.4 | 27.9 | 27.0 | 28.8 |
| Cerebral hemorrhage | 56.4 | 51.3 | 53.6 | 60.0 | 60.3 |
| Diseases of the coronary arteries and angina pectoris | 51.7 | 49.5 | 50.1 | 53.5 | 51.3 |
| Other chronic heart diseases† | 132.4 | 135.5 | 142.3 | 153.4 | 156.5 |
| Diarrhea and enteritis | 5.3 | 7.7 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.6 |
| Appendicitis | 5.6 | 6.2 | 8.2 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| Chronic nephritis | 44.0 | 45.7 | 50.5 | 50.8 | 55.6 |
| Puerperal state—total | 3.6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Suicides | 5.1 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 8.2 |
| Homicides | 3.0 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Accidents—total | 45.5 | 51.5 | 48.5 | 50.5 | 46.7 |
| Home accidents | 9.1 | 9.5 | 9.8 | 10.7 | 11.4 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 20.8 | 23.1 | 21.2 | 20.6 | 17.5 |
| All other causes of death | 121.3 | 125.4 | 122.0 | 123.3 | 125.3 |

*The rates for 1941 are subject to slight correction, since they are based on provisional estimates of lives exposed to risk.

†International List (1940) titles 92, 93 (c), (d), (e), and 95.

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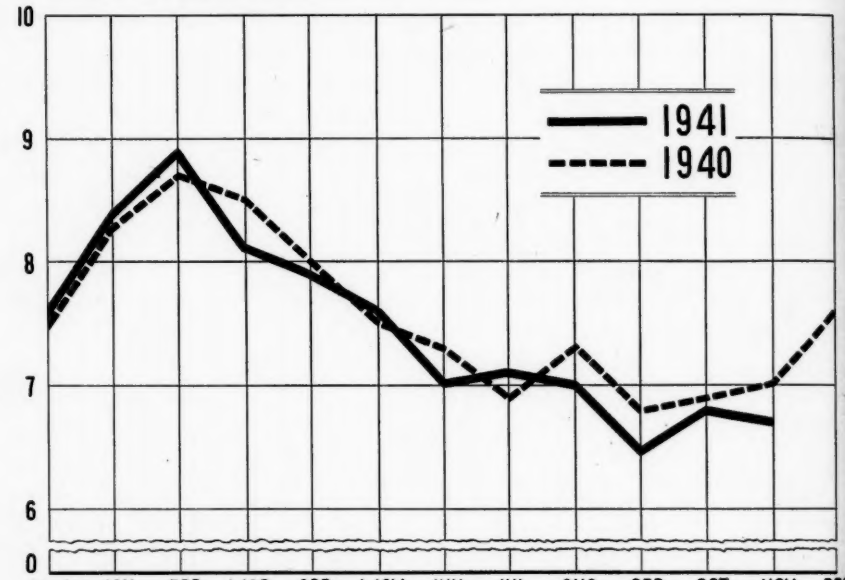
# MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES

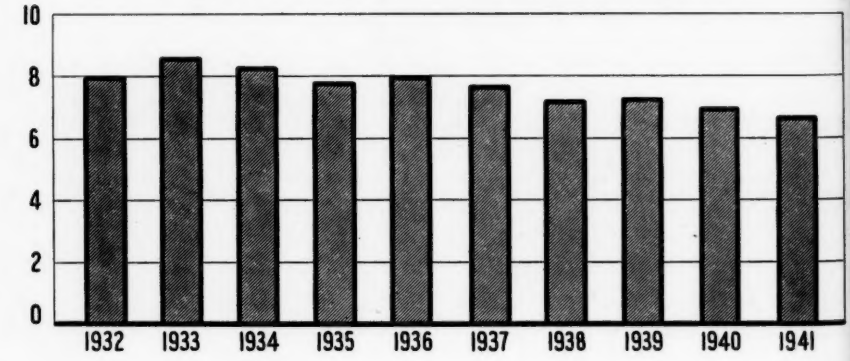
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT, WEEKLY PREMIUM-PAYING BUSINESS

DEATH RATES PER 1,000 · ANNUAL BASIS




| (DEC) | JAN. | FEB. | MAR. | APR. | MAY | JUN. | JUL. | AUG. | SEP. | OCT. | NOV. | DEC. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *1940* | 8.3 | 8.7 | 8.6 | 8.0 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 7.3 | 6.8 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 7.6 |
| *1941* | 8.4 | 8.9 | 8.1 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 6.8 | 6.7 | |

## DEATH RATES FOR NOVEMBER




*Rates for 1941 are provisional.*

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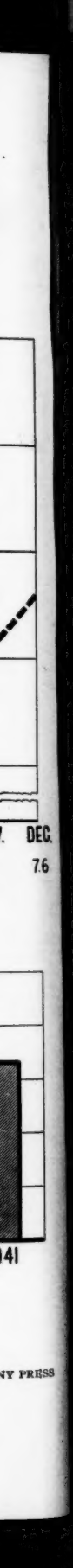
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